

Bulletin !

An informal look at life in this part of France and a selection of things to see and do.

Thought for the month:

Some call it multi-tasking. I call it doing something else while I try to remember what I was doing in the first place!

Here are some *vide-greniers* (v-g) & *brocantes* in this area (traditionally not many at this time of year), but double-check beforehand, if possible, at www.brocabrac.fr in case of any last-minute cancellations ['61' = area; ± = number of stalls expected]:

Sun. 3 rd	Bellou-en-Houlme (61)	v-g/ <i>brocante</i> at La Chevalerie, ±150
Sun. 10 th	Rives d'Andaines (61)	<i>brocante</i> in rue de Domfront, ±70
“	Sourdeval (50)	monthly v-g at ‘ <i>A La Belle Epoque</i> ’, ±70
Sat. 16 th	La Ferté-Macé (61)	<i>braderie – créerécup</i> (also sale of objects made from recycled items), 8 rue du Collège, 9h-18h, ±50
Sun. 24 th	Bellou-en-Houlme (61)	v-g/ <i>brocante</i> at La Chevalerie, ±150

Vide-maisons (house clearances)

1 st , 2 nd & 3 rd	Montsûrs-Saint-Cénére (53)	at 16 Grande Rue, 9h-16h
1 st , 2 nd & 3 rd	Perrou (53)	<i>Jardin cabanon</i> , 6 rue des Andaines, 11h-17h
10 th & 11 th	Juvigné-Val d'Andaine (61)	at 1 rue des Clairets, 10h-19h30

Special dates / public holidays

Friday 1st - *Toussaint* (All Saints Day): a festival honouring the saints. It precedes the *Fête des Morts* on the 2nd, when people honour the dead and bring flowers, usually chrysanthemums and heather, to the graves of relations.

Monday 11th - *l'Armistice* (Remembrance Day): the day when those killed in both WW1 and WW2 are remembered. Services take place across France - one of the most well-known being the Memorial Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Paris.

Eating out - *Soirée Repas avec Magicien*

On Sat. 9th at 19h in Chantrigné (53) is an Evening Meal with a Magician. You can enjoy an evening full of magic and a meal. Booking is required (06 12 38 75 05). For more information go to the Mayenne Tourist Office (02 43 04 19 37)

Some *Marchés de Noël* (Christmas Markets)

On Fri. 22nd, Sat. 23rd & Sun 24th, plus Sat. 30th, Sun. 1st Dec., will be the Christmas Market at the Château de Fresne in Champéon (53). A real Christmas market in a festively decorated château, with local and international artisans and designers. Buy your gift or your Christmas tree and enjoy a tasty snack and drinks. More info from the Mayenne Tourist Office (www.mayenne-tourisme.com)

Sat. 23rd, 10h to 17h, at Café Corbeau, 1 rue Corbeau Paris in Gorron (53) – *Marché de Noël – Atelier Soins gratuit* (free wellness workshop), *découverte produits* (product discovery), advice and personalised gifts. Tel: 06 86 86 12 52.

Sun. 24th, 10h to 18h30 in Craon (53) town centre – there will be 60 exhibitors and craftsmen, with pony rides, a carousel, Father Christmas race, tombola. At 18h the Christmas lights will be switched on.

Sat. 30th in Aron (53), 14h to 21h in the Salle des Sports, 1 La Filature, Aron - you will find present ideas, local crafts, and there will be food on site.

Sat. 30th in Pré-en-Pail (53), 10h to 19h30, along rue Aristide Briand you will find Christmas decorated windows, games for children, local produce, entertainment in the shops – and at 17h the Christmas lights will be switched on. At 19h there will be fireworks at the old campsite.

For more Christmas Market ideas do ask at any Tourist Office.

Arts & Crafts Forum – Christmas Shop

From 15th Nov. to 24th Dec., this *Forum Metiers d'Art Boutique de Noël* is at 9B rue du Temple in Jublains (53). The Jublains Crafts Forum is a place to discover and promote crafts in the arts & crafts sector. The Christmas Boutique will be open from Tuesdays to Saturdays, 15th November to 24th December, for unusual, original and handcrafted gifts. For more info: www.forumdesmetiersdart.com

Weekly Medication and Mantra – Singing for Well-Being sessions

Every Tuesday morning from 10h30 to 11h30 will be Meditation and Mantra sessions at HeartSong Normandie in Mortain (50). Meditate and sing simple, soulful songs, chants, mantras and sound meditations from around the world to uplift, bring joy and nurture your well-being. No experience necessary. 10€ per session, or 6 for 50€ - booking essential for all their workshops. 1-2-1 sessions and private groups are also available. To book your place please get in touch with them at HeartSong Normandie. For further details you can contact them on: helloheartsong@gmail.com, <https://www.heartsongnormandie.com>

Marché au Musée (Market at the Museum)

On Sun. 3rd, 9h30 to 17h30, at the *Musée Archéologique* (Archeological Museum) in Jublains (53), mostly local artisans are invited to exhibit and sell their products for an unusual Christmas market, ahead of its time. The exhibitors are in the museum setting and can talk about (in French but some English may be spoken) their practices such as shoe-making, stone cutting, forge-work, wood- or earth-working. For visitors, the Market at the Museum is an opportunity to discover, or re-discover, the collection of the archeological museum, its shop at the Reception (Acceuil), the fortress and also the current temporary exhibition. At 15h there will be a show “Victoriette at Caesar’s Camp”, free for all, as is the entry to the museum. A food truck will be on site. www.jublains.fr

Trees decked out in knitting

On Place Clémenceau in Mayenne (53) you will see the trees where the trunks have been covered in knitting. These have been prepared by volunteers of the social centre ‘*Les Possibles*’, residents of the local people’s home and the commune. These decorations will remain until next Spring.

Salon Multi-collection in Bagnoles de l’Orne (61)

On Sun. 3rd, 9h-18h, in the Communs du Château, Allée Aloïs Monnet, Bagnoles de l’Orne, this collector’s fair allows the purchase, sale and exchange of postcards, stamps, coins, cheese labels, old toys, etc. Entry: 1€, under 18s free. www.bagnolesdelorne.com

Discover the *Brasserie de l’Arbre*

On Wed. 13th, 14h to 15h, lovers of craft beers can discover this brewery in the heart of Bagnoles de l’Orne (61). You will be welcomed and accompanied to discover the different stages of production of this local beer. Your visit will end with a tasting. Tickets: 3€, available from the Bagnoles de l’Orne Tourist Office.

Exhibition: ‘The Great Normandy Fairs’

Until 30th November in the Espace Culturel de Houlme in Briouze (61) is this exhibition “*Les Grands Foires Normandes*”. Christian Malon is a photographer and author who for over 40 years has been photographing the rural world in France. Free.

Market by the Laval railway station

Every Saturday in November, 8h-18h, there will be a market on avenue Robert Buron, near Laval station. There will be 2 market gardeners, 3 butchers, a poultry (ready to cook) seller, a baker, an oyster farmer and a pancake stand. Also, every second Saturday, a beekeeper. For more info: www.laval-tourisme.com

A giant sculpture in Gorrion (53)!

As well as The Cow and The Pig in the Promenade Saint-Laurent (by the ex-lake!) it is the turn of The Bee to make its appearance! A giant sculpture of a bee will soon be installed in the town – but where? Gorrion has thrown out a challenge – to find where best to put the sculpture. Everyone is invited to put forward their suggestions – you can go to the Gorrion *Mairie* with your ideas!

Entertainment & Concerts

Fri. 8th at 21h in the Abbey de Fontaine-Daniel (53) : a concert of piano and voices with Jeanne Added, in exceptional surroundings full of history and mystery. Tickets: 27€/25€, available from www.kiosque-mayenne.org

Sat. 16th at 21h in the Centre d'Animation et de Congrès, 12 avenue des Thermes in Bagnoles de l'Orne (61): concert with "*Quartetto Elastico*" – Ricardo Tesi, accordionist of international renown, and his musicians present his latest album. Tickets: 20€ from the Bagnoles Tourist Office (www.bagnolesdelorne.com)

Voix d'Eté

Voix d'Eté is a small chamber choir based in Dompierre (61) that was formed in 2010 and is currently directed by Jim Percival. The choir has performed many concerts over the years and supported various charities. It performs a variety of sacred and secular music from the medieval era to the present day. The choir meets on Tuesday afternoons 14h30 - 16h30 in *le salon communautaire* in Dompierre. There is tea & cake after the rehearsals. New members in all four voice parts (soprano, alto, tenor & bass) are always welcome. Why not go along on a Tuesday afternoon to give it a try? For details please call Françoise Brison: telephone number 02 33 64 38 09.

Advance Notice:

The choir '*Voix d'Eté*' will be giving its annual Christmas Concert at the Salle Normand in Dompierre (61) at 16h on Friday 6th December. This is a free concert but there will be a voluntary collection for charity. There will be light refreshments afterwards. Music will include well known French and British carols and also lesser known choir pieces with a Christmas flavour.

Voix d'Eté and other choirs from the La Ferté-Macé area are joining forces to give a Carol Concert in Notre Dame de l'Assomption in La Ferté-Macé (61) on Sunday 8th December at 15h. The combined choirs will sing a few short Christmas pieces but the emphasis will be on the public joining in singing traditional well-known British and French carols. This promises to be a good way to start celebrating Christmas, so get your voices ready for a good sing.

English films in Ernée (53) cinema

CinéMajestic in Ernée are pleased to announce that they will be showing two films per month in English with French subtitles. Tickets are €6 for adults, €4.50 for children.

The films to be shown in English language with French subtitles in November are:

* Thurs. 7th at 20h30: Lee (Kate Winslet in a very interesting biopic about Vogue model becomes war photographer)

* Thurs. 21st at 20h30: Priscilla (about Elvis Presley's wife).

If you have any suggestions for movies you would like to see, please feel free to email the manager Armande Léon. His email address is responsable.cinemajestic@ville-erneefr.

English films in Gorrion (53) cinema

The first 2 English (VO) films in Gorrion cinema in November will be:

Monday 4th at 20h: *Megalopolis* (drama/sci-fi)

by Francis Ford Coppola, with Adam Driver, Giancarlo Esposito, Natalie Emmanuel

Monday 11th at 20h: *Joker : The World is A Stage* (in French: *Joker: Folie à Deux*)

by Todd Philipps, with Joaquin Phoenix, Lady Gaga, Brendan Gleeson

The films start at 8pm and tickets (5,50€) are available at the cinema (beside the church) from 7.30pm on the night. As always, the '*Bar de la Mairie*' at the bottom of the hill serves pre-film refreshments, including a platter of cheese and/or meat with a glass of wine/beer, for 8€. [It might be advisable to check on www.gorrion-cinemas.fr before setting off in case of any last-minute changes to the films].

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Advance notice for December:

* *Animation de Noël* - on **Sun. 1st December**, 9h to 17h in the Salle des Fêtes in Fougerolles du Plessis (53), there will be over 30 stalls of Christmas cheer!

* Concerts by *Voix d'Été* on **6th and 8th December** (see page 4)

And finally:

Once you lick the frosting off a *cupcake* it becomes a muffin . . . and muffins are *healthy*. You're welcome.

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Well, after my 'break' in October, I am 'back on track' with the Bulletin! Do feel free to let me know of any restaurants you have tried, or places of interest you have visited, and would like others to enjoy. I hope you have a great November.

Judy Skinner

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Events by the day (not including vide-greniers)

November 2024

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Page</u>
Fri. 1 st	<i>Toussaint</i>	Europe	1
Sun. 3 rd	Market at the Museum	Jublains	3
“	Salon Multi-collections	Bagnoles de l’Orne	3
Mon. 4 th	Film: ‘Megalopolis’	Gorron	5
Thurs. 7 th	Film: ‘Lee’	Ernée	4
Fri. 8 th	Concert in the Abbey	Fontaine-Daniel	4
Sat. 9 th	Evening meal with magician	Chantrigné	2
Mon. 11 th	Armistice Day	Europe	1
“	Film: ‘Joker: The World is A Stage’	Gorron	5
Wed. 13 th	Visit to <i>Brasserie de l’Arbre</i>	Bagnoles de l’Orne	3
from 15 th	Forum Christmas Shop	Jublains	3
Sat. 16 th	Concert: <i>Quartetto Elastico</i>	Bagnoles de l’Orne	4
Thurs. 21 st	Film: ‘Priscilla’	Ernée	4
Sat. 23 rd	Christmas ‘wellness’ market	Gorron	2
23 rd , 24 th ,) 25 th & 30 th)	Christmas markets	Champéon	2
Sun. 24 th	Christmas Fair	Craon	2
Sat. 30 th	Christmas market	Aron	2
“	Christmas market	Pré-en-Pail	2
Until 30 th	Expo: ‘Great Normandy Fairs’	Briouze	3